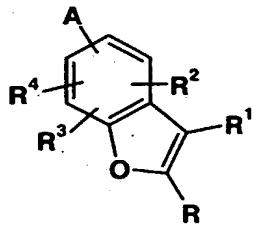
WE CLAIM:



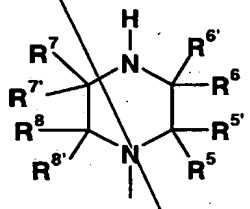
Sub A2

1. The compounds of Formula I:

I

where:

A is homopiperazine or a piperazine of formula:



(i)

R is hydrogen, halo, trifluoromethyl or C_1-C_6 alkyl;

R^1 is hydrogen, halo, trifluoromethyl, phenyl, or C_1-C_6 alkyl;

R^2, R^3, and R^4 are independently hydrogen, halo, dihalomethyl, trifluoromethyl, 1,1-difluoroethy-1-yl, cyano, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, C_1-C_4 alkoxycarbonyl, C_1-C_6 alkyl, -C(O)NHR^9, or C_1-C_6 alkyl substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of halo, C_1-C_4 alkoxy and hydroxy.

R^5, R^6, R^7, and R^8 are independently hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, phenyl, benzyl, hydroxymethyl, halomethyl, dihalomethyl, trihalomethyl, or benzyloxymethyl;

$R^{5'}$ is hydrogen or methyl, provided that $R^{5'}$ may be methyl only when R^5 is other than hydrogen; or R^5 and $R^{5'}$, together with the carbon atom to which they are attached, form a cyclopropyl moiety;

Sub A2

$R^{6'}$ is hydrogen or methyl, provided that $R^{6'}$ may be methyl only when R^6 is other than hydrogen; or R^6 and $R^{6'}$, together with the carbon atom to which they are attached, form a cyclopropyl moiety;

$R^{7'}$ is hydrogen or methyl, provided that $R^{7'}$ may be methyl only when R^7 is other than hydrogen; or R^7 and $R^{7'}$, together with the carbon atom to which they are attached, form a cyclopropyl moiety;

$R^{8'}$ is hydrogen or methyl, provided that $R^{8'}$ may be methyl only when R^8 is other than hydrogen; or R^8 and $R^{8'}$, together with the carbon atom to which they are attached, form a cyclopropyl moiety;

R^9 is C_1-C_8 alkyl where the alkyl chain is optionally substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of phenyl and pyridyl;

or pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts thereof subject to the following provisos:

a) when R^2, R^3, and R^4 are all selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, trifluoromethyl, cyano, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, or C_1-C_4 alkyl, neither R^6 nor R^7 may be selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C_1-C_6 alkyl unless:

1. R is halo;
2. R^1 is halo or phenyl
3. $R^{6'}$ or $R^{7'}$ is methyl; or
4. R^5 or R^8 are other than hydrogen;

b) when R, R^1, and two of R^2, R^3, and R^4 are hydrogen and one of R^2, R^3, or R^4 is selected from the group

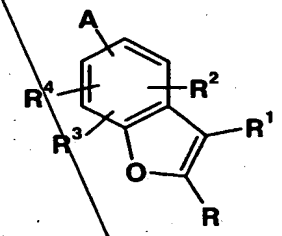
consisting of fluoro, chloro, bromo, methyl, or methoxy, at least one of R^5, R^6, R^7, or R^8 must be other than hydrogen;

c) when R^1 is bromo or R is methyl, at least one of R^2, R^3, and R^4 must be other than hydrogen; and

d) no more than two of R^5, R^6, R^7, and R^8 may be other than hydrogen.

Sub A2

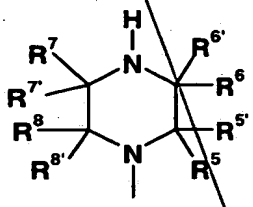
2. A pharmaceutical formulation which comprises, in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent or excipient, a compound of Formula I:



I

where:

A is homopiperazine or a piperazine of formula:



(i)

R is hydrogen, halo, trifluoromethyl or C_1-C_6 alkyl;

R^1 is hydrogen, halo, trifluoromethyl, phenyl, or C_1-C_6 alkyl;

R^2, R^3, and R^4 are independently hydrogen, halo, dihalomethyl, trifluoromethyl, 1,1-difluoroethy-1-yl, cyano,

C_1-C_4 alkoxy, C_1-C_4 alkoxycarbonyl, C_1-C_6 alkyl, $-C(O)NHR^9$, or C_1-C_6 alkyl substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of halo, C_1-C_4 alkoxy and hydroxy.

R^5, R^6, R^7, and R^8 are independently hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, phenyl, benzyl, hydroxymethyl, halomethyl, dihalomethyl, trihalomethyl, or benzyloxymethyl;

$R^{5'}$ is hydrogen or methyl, provided that $R^{5'}$ may be methyl only when R^5 is other than hydrogen; or R^5 and $R^{5'}$, together with the carbon atom to which they are attached, form a cyclopropyl moiety;

$R^{6'}$ is hydrogen or methyl, provided that $R^{6'}$ may be methyl only when R^6 is other than hydrogen; or R^6 and $R^{6'}$, together with the carbon atom to which they are attached, form a cyclopropyl moiety;

$R^{7'}$ is hydrogen or methyl, provided that $R^{7'}$ may be methyl only when R^7 is other than hydrogen; or R^7 and $R^{7'}$, together with the carbon atom to which they are attached, form a cyclopropyl moiety;

$R^{8'}$ is hydrogen or methyl, provided that $R^{8'}$ may be methyl only when R^8 is other than hydrogen; or R^8 and $R^{8'}$, together with the carbon atom to which they are attached, form a cyclopropyl moiety;

R^9 is C_1-C_8 alkyl where the alkyl chain is optionally substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of phenyl and pyridyl;

or pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts thereof subject to the following provisos:

a) when R^2, R^3, and R^4 are all selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, trifluoromethyl, cyano, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, or C_1-C_4 alkyl, neither R^6 nor R^7 may be selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C_1-C_6 alkyl unless:

1. R is halo;

2. R^1 is halo or phenyl

3. $R^{6'}$ or $R^{7'}$ is methyl; or

4. R^5 or R^8 are other than hydrogen;

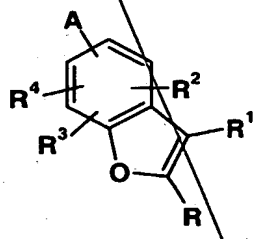
Sub A2

b) when R, R^1, and two of R^2, R^3, and R^4 are hydrogen and one of R^2, R^3, or R^4 is selected from the group consisting of fluoro, chloro, bromo, methyl, or methoxy, at least one of R^5, R^6, R^7, or R^8 must be other than hydrogen;

c) when R^1 is bromo or R is methyl, at least one of R^2, R^3, and R^4 must be other than hydrogen; and

d) no more than two of R^5, R^6, R^7, and R^8 may be other than hydrogen.

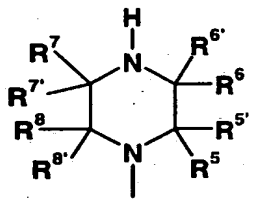
3. A method for increasing activation of the 5-HT_{2C} receptor in mammals, comprising administering to a mammal in need of such activation a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound of Formula I:



I

where:

A is homopiperazine or a piperazine of formula:



Sub A2

(i)

where:

R is hydrogen, halo, trifluoromethyl or C_1-C_6 alkyl;

R^1 is hydrogen, halo, trifluoromethyl, phenyl, or C_1-C_6 alkyl;

R^2, R^3, and R^4 are independently hydrogen, halo, dihalomethyl, trifluoromethyl, 1,1-difluoroethy-1-yl, cyano, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, C_1-C_4 alkoxycarbonyl, C_1-C_6 alkyl, -C(O)NHR^9, or C_1-C_6 alkyl substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of halo, C_1-C_4 alkoxy and hydroxy.

R^5, R^6, R^7, and R^8 are independently hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, phenyl, benzyl, hydroxymethyl, halomethyl, dihalomethyl, trihalomethyl, or benzyloxymethyl;

$R^{5'}$ is hydrogen or methyl, provided that $R^{5'}$ may be methyl only when R^5 is other than hydrogen; or R^5 and $R^{5'}$, together with the carbon atom to which they are attached, form a cyclopropyl moiety;

$R^{6'}$ is hydrogen or methyl, provided that $R^{6'}$ may be methyl only when R^6 is other than hydrogen; or R^6 and $R^{6'}$, together with the carbon atom to which they are attached, form a cyclopropyl moiety;

$R^{7'}$ is hydrogen or methyl, provided that $R^{7'}$ may be methyl only when R^7 is other than hydrogen; or R^7 and $R^{7'}$, together with the carbon atom to which they are attached, form a cyclopropyl moiety;

$R^{8'}$ is hydrogen or methyl, provided that $R^{8'}$ may be methyl only when R^8 is other than hydrogen; or R^8 and $R^{8'}$, together with the carbon atom to which they are attached, form a cyclopropyl moiety;

R^9 is C_1-C_8 alkyl where the alkyl chain is optionally substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of phenyl and pyridyl;

or pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts thereof subject to the following provisos:

a) when R^2, R^3, and R^4 are all selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, trifluoromethyl, cyano, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, or C_1-C_4 alkyl, neither R^6 nor R^7 may be selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C_1-C_6 alkyl unless:

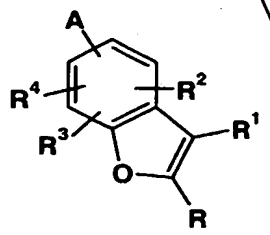
1. R is halo;
2. R^1 is halo or phenyl
3. $R^{6'}$ or $R^{7'}$ is methyl; or
4. R^5 or R^8 are other than hydrogen;

b) when R, R^1, and two of R^2, R^3, and R^4 are hydrogen and one of R^2, R^3, or R^4 is selected from the group consisting of fluoro, chloro, bromo, methyl, or methoxy, at least one of R^5, R^6, R^7, or R^8 must be other than hydrogen;

c) when R^1 is bromo or R is methyl, at least one of R^2, R^3, and R^4 must be other than hydrogen; and

d) no more than two of R^5, R^6, R^7, and R^8 may be other than hydrogen.

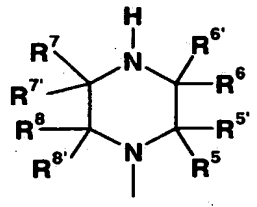
4. A method for the treatment of obesity in mammals, comprising administering to a mammal in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound of Formula I:



I

where:

A is homopiperazine or a piperazine of formula:



(i)

where:

R is hydrogen, halo, trifluoromethyl or C_1-C_6 alkyl;

R^1 is hydrogen, halo, trifluoromethyl, phenyl, or C_1-C_6 alkyl;

R^2, R^3, and R^4 are independently hydrogen, halo, dihalomethyl, trifluoromethyl, 1,1-difluoroethy-1-yl, cyano, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, C_1-C_4 alkoxycarbonyl, C_1-C_6 alkyl, $-C(O)NHR^9$, or C_1-C_6 alkyl substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of halo, C_1-C_4 alkoxy and hydroxy.

R^5, R^6, R^7, and R^8 are independently hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, phenyl, benzyl, hydroxymethyl, halomethyl, dihalomethyl, trihalomethyl, or benzyloxymethyl;

$R^{5'}$ is hydrogen or methyl, provided that $R^{5'}$ may be methyl only when R^5 is other than hydrogen; or R^5 and $R^{5'}$, together with the carbon atom to which they are attached, form a cyclopropyl moiety;

$R^{6'}$ is hydrogen or methyl, provided that $R^{6'}$ may be methyl only when R^6 is other than hydrogen; or R^6 and $R^{6'}$, together with the carbon atom to which they are attached, form a cyclopropyl moiety;

$R^{7'}$ is hydrogen or methyl, provided that $R^{7'}$ may be methyl only when R^7 is other than hydrogen; or R^7 and $R^{7'}$, together with the carbon atom to which they are attached, form a cyclopropyl moiety;

$R^{8'}$ is hydrogen or methyl, provided that $R^{8'}$ may be methyl only when R^8 is other than hydrogen; or R^8 and $R^{8'}$, together with the carbon atom to which they are attached, form a cyclopropyl moiety;

R^9 is C_1-C_8 alkyl where the alkyl chain is optionally substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of phenyl and pyridyl;

or pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts thereof subject to the following provisos:

a) when R^2, R^3, and R^4 are all selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, trifluoromethyl, cyano, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, or C_1-C_4 alkyl, neither R^6 nor R^7 may be selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C_1-C_6 alkyl unless:

1. R is halo;
2. R^1 is halo or phenyl
3. $R^{6'}$ or $R^{7'}$ is methyl; or
4. R^5 or R^8 are other than hydrogen;

b) when R, R^1, and two of R^2, R^3, and R^4 are hydrogen and one of R^2, R^3, or R^4 is selected from the group consisting of fluoro, chloro, bromo, methyl, or methoxy, at least one of R^5, R^6, R^7, or R^8 must be other than hydrogen;

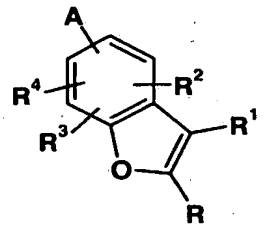
c) when R^1 is bromo or R is methyl, at least one of R^2, R^3, and R^4 must be other than hydrogen; and

d) no more than two of R^5, R^6, R^7, and R^8 may be other than hydrogen.

5. A method for the treatment of depression in mammals, comprising administering to a mammal in need of

such treatment an effective amount of a compound of Formula I:

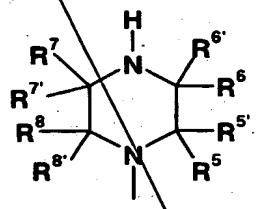
Sub A2



I

where:

A is homopiperazine or a piperazine of formula:



(i)

where:

R is hydrogen, halo, trifluoromethyl or C_1-C_6 alkyl;

R^1 is hydrogen, halo, trifluoromethyl, phenyl, or C_1-C_6 alkyl;

R^2, R^3, and R^4 are independently hydrogen, halo, dihalomethyl, trifluoromethyl, 1,1-difluoroethy-1-yl, cyano, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, C_1-C_4 alkoxycarbonyl, C_1-C_6 alkyl, $-C(O)NHR^9$, or C_1-C_6 alkyl substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of halo, C_1-C_4 alkoxy and hydroxy.

R^5, R^6, R^7, and R^8 are independently hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, phenyl, benzyl, hydroxymethyl, halomethyl, dihalomethyl, trihalomethyl, or benzyloxymethyl;

$R^{5'}$ is hydrogen or methyl, provided that $R^{5'}$ may be methyl only when R^5 is other than hydrogen; or R^5 and $R^{5'}$, together with the carbon atom to which they are attached, form a cyclopropyl moiety;

$R^{6'}$ is hydrogen or methyl, provided that $R^{6'}$ may be methyl only when R^6 is other than hydrogen; or R^6 and $R^{6'}$, together with the carbon atom to which they are attached, form a cyclopropyl moiety;

$R^{7'}$ is hydrogen or methyl, provided that $R^{7'}$ may be methyl only when R^7 is other than hydrogen; or R^7 and $R^{7'}$, together with the carbon atom to which they are attached, form a cyclopropyl moiety;

$R^{8'}$ is hydrogen or methyl, provided that $R^{8'}$ may be methyl only when R^8 is other than hydrogen; or R^8 and $R^{8'}$, together with the carbon atom to which they are attached, form a cyclopropyl moiety;

R^9 is C_1-C_8 alkyl where the alkyl chain is optionally substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of phenyl and pyridyl;

or pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts thereof subject to the following provisos:

a) when R^2, R^3, and R^4 are all selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, trifluoromethyl, cyano, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, or C_1-C_4 alkyl, neither R^6 nor R^7 may be selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C_1-C_6 alkyl unless:

1. R is halo;
2. R^1 is halo or phenyl
3. $R^{6'}$ or $R^{7'}$ is methyl; or
4. R^5 or R^8 are other than hydrogen;

b) when R, R^1, and two of R^2, R^3, and R^4 are hydrogen and one of R^2, R^3, or R^4 is selected from the group

consisting of fluoro, chloro, bromo, methyl, or methoxy, at least one of R^5, R^6, R^7, or R^8 must be other than hydrogen;

c) when R^1 is bromo or R is methyl, at least one of R^2, R^3, and R^4 must be other than hydrogen; and

d) no more than two of R^5, R^6, R^7, and R^8 may be other than hydrogen.

6. A method of any of Claims 3, 4, or 5 where the mammal is human.